

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for processing voicemail messages, the method comprising:

transcribing a plurality of voicemail messages, only after storing a predetermined number of the plurality of voice mail messages for a certain user, to produce a plurality of voicemail message transcripts;

indexing the plurality of voicemail message transcripts, each word in the plurality of voicemail message transcripts being indexed relative to an occurrence of a corresponding word in the plurality of voicemail messages;

providing the plurality of voicemail message transcripts to one or more users;
receiving at least one selection action from the one or more users, the at least one selection action identifying a portion of one or more of the voicemail message transcripts for delivery to one or more parties identified by the one or more users; and
providing the identified portion of the one or more voicemail message transcripts to the one or more parties specified by the one or more users.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein audio files of the voicemail messages are provided to the one or more parties specified by the one or more users, the audio files corresponding to solely the portion of the voicemail message transcripts identified by the one or more users.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the identified portion of the one or more voicemail message transcripts comprises a plurality of non-contiguous portions of the one or more voicemail message transcripts.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the one or more voicemail message transcripts are provided as audio files selected from at least one of an mpx format, a .WAV format, a REAL Audio format or an mpx format.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the one or more voicemail message transcripts include at least one audio file, the at least one audio file containing only audio corresponding to the portion identified by the one or more users.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein providing the identified portion of the one or more voicemail message transcripts comprises providing the identified portion in an electronic mail message to the one more parties.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6, wherein the electronic mail message includes an attachment of an audio file corresponding to the identified portion.

8. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:
processing a plurality of speech files, only after storing a predetermined number of the plurality of speech files for a certain user, to produce a plurality of indexed speech file transcripts, each word in the plurality of indexed speech file transcripts being indexed relative to an occurrence of a corresponding word in the plurality of speech files;

receiving a selection action identifying a portion of one of the plurality of indexed speech file transcripts;

receiving a request to deliver the identified portion of the one of the indexed speech file transcripts to one or more intended recipients; and

providing the identified portion of the one of the indexed speech file transcripts to the one or more intended recipients.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, wherein processing the plurality of speech files to produce a plurality of indexed speech file transcripts comprises:

receiving the plurality of speech file transcripts;

performing automatic speech recognition upon the speech files; and

indexing the speech files.

10. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the speech files are voicemail messages.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, further comprising:

providing a selection facility to allow selection of non-contiguous portions of the one of the indexed speech file transcripts.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, wherein the identified portion is provided in both a text and an audio format.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12, wherein audio files are provided as attachments to one or more electronic mail messages provided to the one or more intended recipients.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, wherein the identified portion of the one of the plurality of indexed speech file transcripts is included as text within one or more electronic mail messages provided to the one or more intended recipients.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14, wherein the text is placed within a body of the one or more electronic mail messages.

16. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

transcribing a plurality of speech messages, only after storing a predetermined number of the plurality of speech messages for a certain user, to produce a plurality of speech message transcripts;

indexing the plurality of speech messages message transcripts, each word in the plurality of speech message transcripts being indexed relative to an occurrence of a corresponding word in the plurality of speech messages;

providing a selection facility for selection of a portion of at least one of the plurality of speech messages;

receiving, from a user, a selection of a portion of at least one speech message; and providing the selected portion to one or more parties specified by the user.

17. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein transcribing the plurality of speech messages is performed by automatic speech recognition.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, wherein the selection facility allows a selection of noncontiguous portions of the speech message.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16, wherein providing the selected portion to one or more parties specified by the user comprises:
- creating an electronic mail message containing, in an audible format, only the selected portion.
21. (Currently Amended) A system for processing voicemail messages, the system comprising:
- a message database to receive and store the voicemail messages;
- an automatic speech recognition component to perform speech recognition on the voicemail messages and produce transcripts of the voicemail messages only after a predetermined number of the voicemail messages are stored for a certain user;
- a message indexing component to produce a transcript index of the transcripts of the voicemail messages such that each word in the transcripts of the voicemail messages is indexed relative to an occurrence of a corresponding word in the voicemail messages;
- a user selection component to allow a user to select a portion of at least one of the transcripts of the voicemail messages for delivery to one or more parties; and
- a selection delivery component to provide the selected portion of at least one of the transcripts of the voicemail messages to the one or more parties.
22. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 21, wherein the selected portion of the at least one of the transcripts of the voicemail messages includes non-contiguous portions.
23. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 21, wherein the selection delivery component is configured to interface with a message server.

24. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 23, wherein the message server is an electronic mail message server.